

60130-984

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appellant: Le Hir, et al
Serial No.: 09/760,017
Filed: January 12, 2001
Group Art Unit: 2834
Examiner: Tamai, Karl L.
Title: A MOTORIZED REDUCTION GEAR WITH A
COMMUTATOR HAVING AN INTEGRAL MAGNETIC
RING

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Mail Stop Appeal Brief- Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

REPLY BRIEF

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to the Examiner's Answer mailed August 7, 2003. The Examiner's Answer raises four arguments which require some brief response.

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**ARGUMENTS RELATING TO THE BUSHING AND THE MAGNETIC RING AS
PART OF THE COMMUTATOR**

First, beginning on page 5, the Examiner argues that Schechinger discloses an integral commutator unit and that the bushing 33, the magnetic ring 34a and the safety ring 40 are part of the commutator 15.

Answer:

Schechinger does not disclose that the magnetic ring 34a or the bushing 33a are part of the commutator 15. On page 3 of Schechinger, it is disclosed that the bushing 33 is part of a pulse output device 30 that operates as a short circuit ring for the magnetic circuit that is used to amplify the magnetic field. The bushing 33 is not part of the commutator 15. Additionally, as shown in Figure 2, the magnetic ring 34a is located outwardly of the bushing 33a and is illustrated as a separate component from the commutator 15. The first paragraph of page 4 discloses that the magnetic ring 34a can be pressed against a stop, such as the commutator 15. If the magnetic ring 34a can be pressed against the commutator 15, the magnetic ring 34a cannot be a part of the commutator 15. Applicant's claims are not anticipated.

**ARGUMENTS RELATING TO THE MAGNETIC RING ATTACHED ON THE
OUTER SURFACE OF THE COMMUTATOR**

On page 5, the Examiner argues that the bushing 33 is part of the commutator 15, and therefore the magnetic ring 34a is on the outer surface of the commutator 15.

Answer:

Applicant is claiming the outer surface as the surface opposite to an inner surface, and the inner surface is claimed as the surface mounted on the shaft. In Schechinger, the magnetic ring 34a does not contact the surface of the commutator 15 opposite to the shaft mounting surface. Instead, the magnetic ring 34a contacts the outer surface of the spacing bushing 33a, which as discussed above, is not part of the commutator 15. Applicant's claims are not anticipated.

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**ARGUMENTS RELATING TO THE MAGNETIC RING BEING HOUSED IN AN
ANNULAR RECESS OF THE COMMUTATOR**

On page 6, the Examiner argues that Schechinger discloses that the magnetic ring 34s is housed in an annular recess.

Answer:

The magnetic ring 34a of Schechinger is not housed in an annular recess on the commutator 15. In Schechinger, the magnetic ring 34a is mounted on the spacing bushing 33 by clamping or adhesion. Schechinger does not disclose that the magnetic ring 34a is housed in an annular recess of the commutator 15, but rather that the magnetic ring 34a is mounted on the spacing bushing 33. Applicant's claims are not anticipated.

**ARGUMENTS RELATING TO THE MAGNETIC RING BEING ELASTICALLY
CLIPPED ONTO AN ANNULAR EXTENSION OF THE COMMUTATOR**

Finally, on page 6, the Examiner argues that Schechinger discloses that the magnetic ring 34s is retained by a spring clip 40 and is therefore elastically clipped on the commutator 15.

Answer:

Schechinger discloses that a safety ring 40 can prevent play of the magnetic ring 34a on the spacing bushing 33a. However, Schechinger does not disclose that the safety ring 40 elastically clips the magnetic ring 34a on the commutator 15. Applicant's claims are not anticipated.

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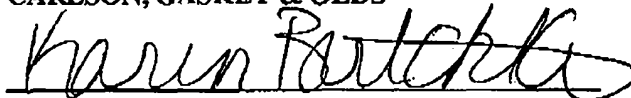
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CLOSING

For the reasons set forth above, and for the reasons set forth in the main brief, the rejection must be reversed. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS

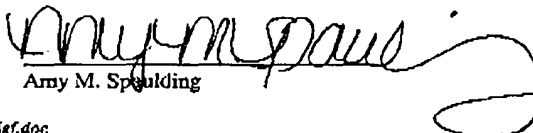


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Dated: October 7, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this Reply Brief and associated documents are being faxed to TC2800, After Final, Commissioner of Patents, (703) 872-9319, on October 7, 2003.



Amy M. Spaulding

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